

POLICY HGAC – Religious Education

The Board supports Religious Education as a program of choice in those communities where the school council requests it and with the prior approval of the Superintendent or designate.

PURPOSE

To allow the opportunity for religious instruction.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

1. The emphasis of the religious program is on those aspects upon which there is broad agreement, rather than upon denominational points of view.
2. Schools respect the wishes of parents about their child's participation in religious education by requiring written consent.
3. A Religious Education Committee, consisting of the Superintendent or designate, the Principal, a teacher and School Council representative from each school offering the program, shall meet as needed to discuss program related matters. The Committee may include a representative from the local ministerial association.
4. This Committee will report to the Board, through the Superintendent or designate, providing a copy of the curriculum.
5. A teacher shall be present during all instruction.
6. The instruction time is determined by the principal in consultation with the teacher, to a maximum of 500 minutes per year.
7. Each instructor may respond to denominational questions that arise. In addition to presenting his/her denominational viewpoint, he/she should suggest that the concerned class members consult their own clergy on the matter.

REFERENCES

Cross References:

Policy HNB - Teaching About Controversial Issues

Alberta Education [*Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12*](#)

Legal Reference: [*Education Act*](#) Section 58

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